



PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of

Docket No: Q56144

Ryuichi SHIOHARA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/414,507

Group Art Unit: 2615

Confirmation No.: 3387

Examiner: Nhan T. Tran

Filed: October 8, 1999

For: DIGITAL CAMERA AND FUNCTION APPENDING METHOD FOR THE SAME

SUBMISSION OF APPEAL BRIEF

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith please find an Appeal Brief. A check for the statutory fee of \$500.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 19, 2006



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APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, Appellant submits the following:

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I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION by virtue of an assignment executed by Ryuchi Shiohara and Yasumasa Nakajima (hereinafter “Appellants”) on December 22, 1999.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Appellants, the Assignee and the undersigned, there are no other appeals or interferences before the Board of Appeals and Interferences (“the Board”) that will directly affect, or be affected by, the Board’s decision in the present Appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-32 are all the claims pending in the Application.

Claims 1, 2, 9-12, 19-27 and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Aizawa et al.* (US 6,452,629 B1; hereinafter "*Aizawa*").

Claims 3-8 and 13-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aizawa* in view of JP 09-046577 (hereinafter "*JP '577*").

Claims 28 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aizawa* in view of *Steinberg et al.* (US 6,006,039; hereinafter *Steinberg*).

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

A *Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116* was filed on January 13, 2006. The USPTO issued an *Advisory Action* on January 31, 2006 that indicates that the January 13, 2006 *Response* was entered. No other amendment or response was filed subsequent to the September 22, 2005 Final *Office Action*.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

To explain the invention for the Board's convenience, Appellants will first describe the relevant art (pp. 1-4 of the Specification), and then the exemplary embodiments of the invention (pp. 9-30 of the Specification). Portions of the claims that correspond to the features shown in the exemplary embodiments are also referenced during this discussion (portions of independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 are provided in block quotes for easy identification). This discussion of the exemplary embodiments and the pending claims is provided for explanatory purposes only, and is not intended to limit the scope of the claims.

V(I). Related Art

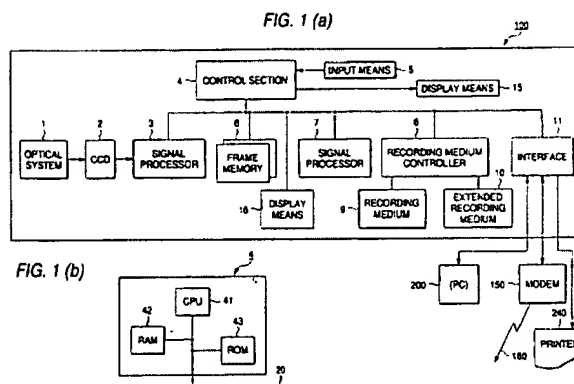
Digital cameras of the related art allow images stored thereon to be transferred to a PC, where image processing can be applied, and various programs can be executed to print the image (see FIG. 10) (*App.*, p. 1). However, there are drawbacks to this process. For example, a user must select an appropriate program and/or printer driver on the PC to work with the digital camera, which adds overhead time to a printing operation. Further, many PC users need a simpler interface to use with their digital camera, or wish not to use a PC at all (*App.*, p. 4).

V(I). The Invention

Accordingly, Appellants determined that printing directly from the digital camera, without using a PC, would be beneficial (*App.*, p. 5). However, this requires that programs for printing (*e.g.*, print drivers) be installed in the digital camera. Thus, to effectively utilize the limited memory capacity of the digital camera, Appellants determined that programs for printing should be installed from an external device into the digital camera as occasion demands, and effectively deleted therefrom when no longer needed. Further, Appellants determined that this

configuration would allow different programs (*e.g.*, a direct printing program, a communication program, or an image correction program)¹ to be installed in the digital camera, so that the digital camera can be used in either a direct-printing or printing-through-PC configuration (*App.*, p. 5).

In view of the above, Appellants have developed a digital camera such as is shown in FIG. 1(a). In this Figure, digital camera 100 includes: (1) elements for obtaining an image and recording it on recording medium 9² (1, 2 and 6-8); and (2) elements for communication and/or program transfer (8-11, 150, 160, 200 and 240) (*App.*, p. 9-11).



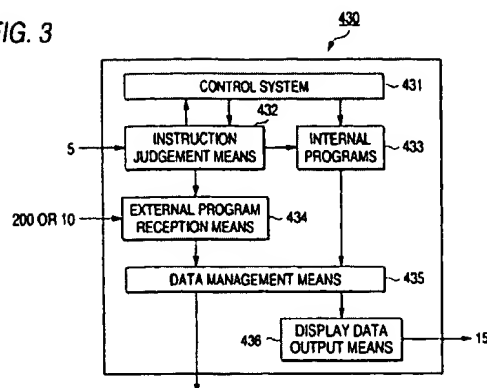
Among the elements for program transfer are: (1) interface 11, which is used to transfer a program (or other data) between digital camera 100 and external devices (*e.g.*, a PC 200, modem 150, and/or printer 240); and (2) extended recording medium 10, upon which programs can be stored and accessed by recording medium controller 8 (*App.*, p. 11).

¹ This supports: (1) claim 5 and 6's recitation that "the program is a print image data generating program;" (2) claim 7 and 8's recitation that "the program is a communication program;" and (3) claim 17 and 18's recitation that "the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line."

² This supports dependent claim 9, 10, 19 and 20's recitation that "the image data is recorded onto the recording medium."

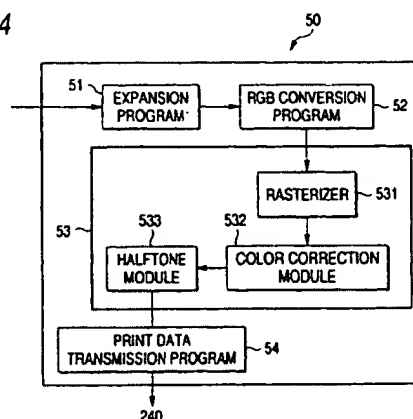
The operations of obtaining and installing/storing/reading a program from the external device are executed by controller 4 of FIG. 1, which uses controller (program) 430 shown in FIG.3. Controller 430 includes: (1) control system 431 (for providing overall control of camera 100); (2) instruction judge 432 (for judging what operation is desired); (3) internal programs 433 (for storing image and program data); (4) external program receiver 434 (for receiving programs); (5) data manager 435 (for managing data on recording medium 9, such as images and programs); and (6) display data sender 436 (*App.*, p. 13-18).

FIG. 3



The program 50 transferred from the external device is shown in FIG. 4, and the program 50 may include data expansion program 51, RGB conversion program 42, printer driver 53, and print data transmission program 54. (*App.*, p. 18)³

FIG. 4



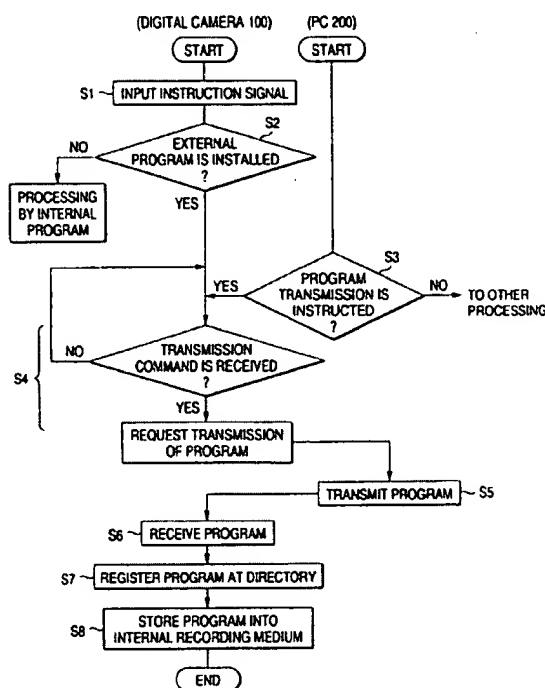
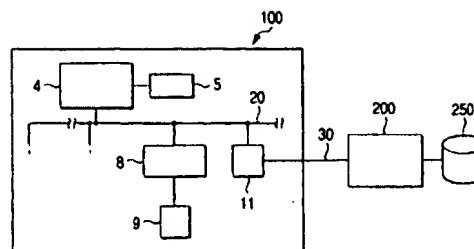
³ This supports dependent claim 15 and 16's recitation that the "program is a program for generating print image data, and further comprising: print data transmitting means for transmitting the print image data generated by executing the program to a printing device." An example of structure relative to the recited means is program 50.

First Embodiment

In a first embodiment, illustrated in FIG. 2(a), a program may be transferred from a storing medium 250/external device 200 to camera 100 via interface 11, where it is stored in recording medium 9 (e.g., a flash memory)⁴ under control of the controller 4 and the recording medium controller 8 (*App.*, p. 12).

FIG. 5 shows an exemplary embodiment of a method of using the system of FIG. 2(a). Specifically, the camera 100 first determines whether the user wishes to install a program (S1). Then, the camera enables program receiver 434 (see FIG. 3) to receive a program from PC 200. The external program receiver 434 then waits for a program transmitting command from the PC 200 (in the time period before S4) (*App.*, p. 19).

FIG. 2(a)



The above corresponds to the following portions of independent claims 1 and 11:

Claim 1

1. A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:
 waiting for a program transmitting command

Claim 11

11. (Previously Presented) A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

⁴ This supports claim 21-24's recitation that "the recording medium is a flash memory."

from an external recording medium, wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium ...

external program reception means⁵ with a program installing function, for waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium ...

wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium.

Then, PC 200 transmits a program transmitting command to digital camera 100 (S3), and then waits for a response from the digital camera 100 (*App.*, p. 20). This corresponds to the following portions of independent claims 1 and 11:

Claim 1

1. ... receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium ...

Claim 11

11. ... receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium ...

Next, the external program receiver 434 transmits a request-to-send program command to the PC 200 (S4) (*App.*, p. 20). This corresponds to the following portions of independent claims 1 and 11:

Claim 1

1. ... transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium ...

Claim 11

11. ... transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium ...

Next, when the PC 200 receives the request-to-send program command, it transmits a program from the program storing medium 250 to the digital camera 100 (via the PC interface and the dedicated cable 30) (S5) (*App.*, p. 20). This corresponds to the following portions of independent claims 1 and 11:

Claim 1

1. ... receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium connected to the digital camera exchangeably ...

Claim 11

11 ... receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium, which is connected thereto exchangeably,

⁵ An example of structure with respect to this “means” in the instant Application is shown by element 434 in FIG. 3.

The external program receiver 434 then assembles the received program and transfers control to the data manager 435 (S6). The data manager 435 receives the program from the external program receiver 434, and then uses the recording medium controller 8 to search the directory of the recording medium 9 to determine where to store the program, stores it therein for later use by the digital camera, and prepares for the next program (S7, S8) (*App.*, p. 20, 21 and 22-25). This corresponds to the following portions of independent claims 1 and 11:

Claim 1

1. ... storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;
 reading the program from the recording medium in the digital camera at a desired time; and
 executing the program

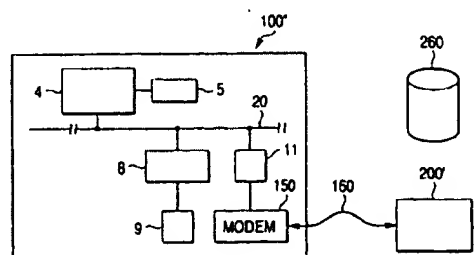
Claim 11

11. ... and storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera
 execution control means for reading the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program ...

Second Embodiment

In another embodiment, illustrated in FIG. 2(c), a program can be transferred from an external device 200' (e.g. a PC or modem)⁶ or a database 260 via modem 150 and external

FIG. 2(c)



communication line 160⁷, where the digital camera 100'' stores the received data into the recording medium 9 under control of the controller 4 and the recording medium controller 8 (*App.*, p. 12).

⁶ This supports: (1) claim 27 and 31's recitation that "the external device comprises a personal computer;" and (2) claim 28 and 32's recitation that "the external device comprises a modem."

⁷ This supports: (1) claim 25 and 26's recitation that "the communication line is connected to an external device;" (2) claim 29's recitation that "the communication line is external to the digital camera;" (3) claim 30's recitation that "the communication line is connected to an external device;" and (4) claim 17 and 18's recitation that "the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line."

FIG. 9 shows an exemplary embodiment of a method of using the system of FIG. 2(c) (*App.*, p. 26). Specifically, it is first determined whether the user wishes to install a program (S1) (*App.*, p. 27). Then, the camera enables program receiver 434, which waits for and receives a

program transmitting command via the communication line 160 (S2 and after) (*App.*, p. 27).

This corresponds to the following portions of claims 2 and 12:

Claim 2

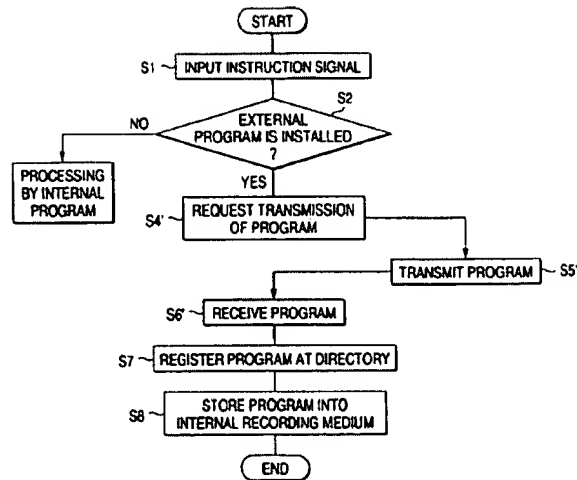
2. A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium;

receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium;

After receiving a program transmitting command, the external program receiver 434 transmits a request-to-send program command to the external device 200' via the modem 150 and the communication line 160 (S4') (*App.*, p. 27). This corresponds to the following portions of claims 2 and 12:

FIG. 9



Claim 12

12. A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

external program reception means⁸ with a program installing function, for waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium

... wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium.

⁸ An example of structure with respect to this "means" in the instant Application is shown by element 434 in FIG. 3.

Claim 2

2. ... transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium ...

Claim 12

12. ... transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium...

Next, when the external device 200' side receives the request-to-send command, the external device 200' transmits the program to the digital camera 100 via the modem 150 and the communication line 160 (S5') (*App.*, p. 27 and 28). This corresponds to the following portions of claims 2 and 12:

Claim 2

2. ... receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line ...

Claim 12

12. ... receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line ...

The external program receiver 434 then assembles the program and transfers control to the data manager 435 (S6'). The data manager 435 receives the program from the external program receiver 434, and then uses the recording medium controller 8 to search the directory of the recording medium 9 to determine where to store the program, stores it therein for later use, and prepares for the next program (S7, S8) (*App.*, p. 28). This corresponds to the following portions of claims 2 and 12:

Claim 2

2. ... storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;
reading the program from the recording medium in the digital camera at a desired time; and
executing the program.

Claim 12

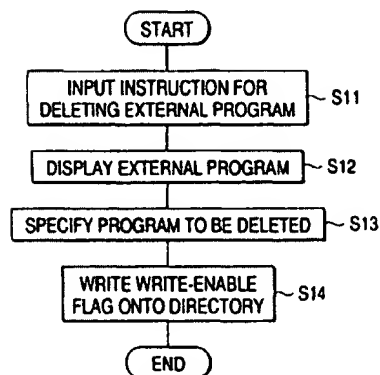
12. ... storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera; and
execution control means for reading the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program ...

In both of the above embodiments, the programs stored on recording medium 9 can be

deleted to save space on the recording medium.

Specifically, as shown in FIG. 6, a user may select a program to be deleted (S11-S13), after which the area of the recording medium where the program is stored is opened up for further program storage (S14)² by the data manager 435.

FIG. 6



² This supports claim 3 and 4's recitation of "deleting a desired program from recording medium in the digital camera," and claim 13 and 14's recitation of a "program deleting means for deleting a desired program from the recording medium provided therein." An example of the structure with respect to the "program deleting means" of claims 13 and 14 is data manager 435.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

- (A) Whether or not claims 1, 2, 9-12, 19-27 and 29-31 are patentable over *Aizawa*.
- (B) Whether or not claims 3-8 and 13-18 are patentable over *Aizawa* in view of *JP '577*.
- (C) Whether or not claims 28 and 32 are patentable over *Aizawa* in view of *Steinberg*.

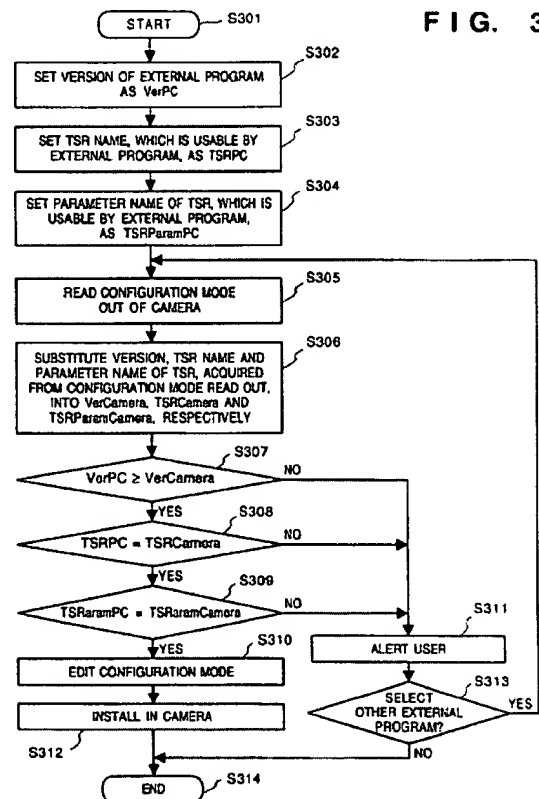
VII. ARGUMENT

VII(1). The Current Rejection

As noted above, the Examiner has rejected: (1) claims 1, 2, 9-12, 19-27 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Aizawa*; (2) claims 3-8 and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aizawa* in view of *JP '577*; and (3) claims 28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aizawa* in view of *Steinberg*.

VII(2). Aizawa

Aizawa discloses an image sensing device that allows a program from a PC to be installed thereon. A first embodiment, disclosed in FIG. 3, shows a method where the PC controls installation of the program on the image sensing device. In this embodiment, an installation program 206 is started (S301). Next, the program 207 on the PC that the user wants to install on the camera is identified by version VerPC (S302) and configuration information such as TSR name (S303), and TSRParamPC (S304). Then, the version and configuration information of a program already on the camera 100 is read (S305). Next: (1) the versions; and (2) the configuration



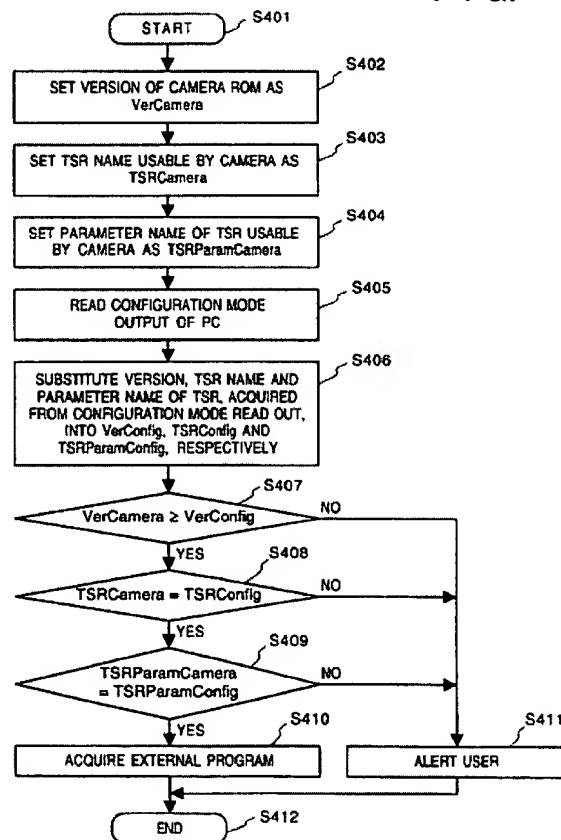
information of the program to be installed are compared (S307-S309). If the version on the PC is newer, and the configuration information is the same, the program from the PC may be installed on the camera (S312). If not, the user is alerted (S313).

Thus, in the embodiment of FIG. 3, the image sensing device does not perform any function (other than being accessed for version information and for installation of the program) in updating its program. Rather, all such functions are performed on the PC side.

Another embodiment, disclosed in FIG. 4, shows a method where the image sensing device controls installation of the program thereon. First, the installation program 120 is started (S401). Then, the version of a program stored on the image sensing device is identified by VerCamera (S402) and configuration information such as TSR name (S403), and TSRCamera (S404). Next, a program on PC 200 is identified by version, TSR name, and TSR parameter name variables (S405, S406). Then, the versions of the program on the image sensing device and PC are compared (S407-

S409). If installation of the program from the PC is appropriate, it is installed (S410). If not, the user is alerted (S411).

FIG. 4



Thus, in the embodiment of FIG. 4, PC does not perform any function (other than being accessed for version information and to access the program) in updating the program on the image sensing device. Rather, all such functions are performed on the image sensing device side.

The methods illustrated in FIGS. 3 and 4 are completely independent from each other, so that either can update the program stored in the image sensing device (col. 6, lines 14-16).

VII(3). Independent Claims 1, 2, 11 and 12, and Dependent Claims 9, 10, 19-27 and 29-31, Are Patentable Over Aizawa

In the March 18, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected each of the independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 in view of FIG. 4 of *Aizawa*.

In the July 11, 2005 *Amendment*, Appellants pointed out that the method depicted in FIG. 4 of *Aizawa* failed to teach or suggest “waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, where the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium,” as recited in independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 12. Specifically, Appellants pointed out that the portion of *Aizawa* alleged by the Examiner to be similar to the recited “program transmitting command” (Step S404 in FIG. 4) could only reasonably be read as disclosing a procedure where the camera contacts the PC to obtain information regarding the program to be added (S405-S406), which was opposite to the claimed arrangement.

The Examiner conceded that Appellants’ reading of the method of FIG. 4 was correct, as he changed his position in the September 22, 2005 *Office Action* (indicating that a “new ground of rejection” was applied against the pending claims), and instead cited the method disclosed in FIG. 3 of *Aizawa*.

However, in the January 13, 2005 *Amendment*, Appellants pointed out that the method disclosed in FIG. 3 also fails to teach or suggest all of the features recited in independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 12. Specifically, the cited method fails to teach or suggest “transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium,” as recited in these claims.

Specifically, FIG. 3 discloses a method performed in installation program 206 of computer 200 of FIG. 1 (col. 5, lines 26-29). In this method, the versions of the program in the computer 200 are decided (S302-S304), the versions of the program in the camera are read (S305), and the program versions on the computer and the camera are compared (S306-S309). If the version on the computer is decided to be different than the version on the camera, the computer installs the computer’s version on the camera (S312).

Accordingly, it can be seen that all of the operative steps disclosed in FIG. 3 are performed by the installation program 206 on the computer 200, not by the camera 100. Thus, Appellants respectfully submit that FIG. 3 of *Aizawa* cannot reasonably be read as disclosing any operation performed by the camera 100, let alone any specific “transmission” of a “request-to-send program” by the camera. Further, as installation program 206 installs the new program version on the camera 100, there would simply be no need for the camera to transmit any particular “request-to-send” program command.

In the January 31, 2006 *Advisory Action*, the Examiner disagreed, alleging that (*see* p. 3 of the *Advisory Action*) a request-to-send command “is generally indicated by the camera configuration sent from the camera to the computer at steps S305 & S306 in Fig. 3 of *Aizawa*.” The Examiner reasons that without the information passed to computer 200 in steps S305 & S306, “the version of camera program cannot be compared to the version of the computer

program at step S307,” and thus the camera 100 could “not receive any program sent from the computer for program installation.” Accordingly, the Examiner asserts that “it is interpreted that the camera configuration information generally represents a command signal to allow the computer to send an updated program to the camera.”

Appellants disagree. In the process illustrated in FIG. 3 of *Aizawa*, even though the PC obtains version information about the program installed on camera 100, the camera 100 never requests that the computer 200 send any program to the camera 100. Rather, all determination of what programs should be sent to the camera 100 are processed by computer 200. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully submit that the camera 100’s simple indication of what version of software is installed thereon cannot be reasonably interpreted as a “request-to-send” anything.

Thus, Appellants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 are patentable over the applied reference. Further, Appellants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 9, 10, 19-27 and 29-31 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency, and that the secondarily applied references thereagainst, *JP ‘577* and *Steinberg*, fail to teach or suggest the deficiencies of *Aizawa* noted above.

VII(4). Dependent Claims 3-8 and 13-18 Are Patentable Over Aizawa and JP ‘577

Appellants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 3-8 and 13-18 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency, and that the secondarily applied reference thereagainst, *JP ‘577* fails to teach or suggest the deficiencies of *Aizawa* noted above.

VII(5). Dependent Claims 28 and 32 Are Patentable Over Aizawa and Steinberg

Appellants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 28 and 32 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency, and that the secondarily applied reference thereagainst, *Steinberg*, fails to teach or suggest the deficiencies of *Aizawa* noted above.

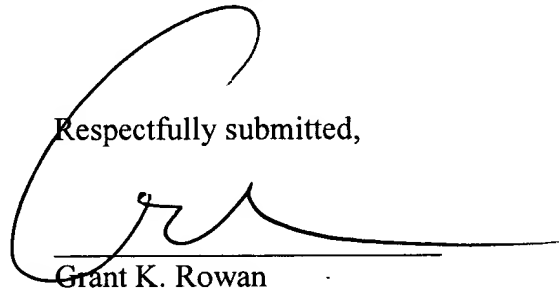
VIII. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing differences between appealed claims 1-32 and the applied references, Appellants respectfully submit that appealed claims 1-32 are patentable over the applied reference.

Unless a check is submitted herewith for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §41.37(a) and 1.17(c), please charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

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Date: May 19, 2006

CLAIMS APPENDIX

CLAIMS 1-32 ON APPEAL:

1. (Previously Presented) A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium;

receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium;

transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium;

receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium connected to the digital camera exchangeably;

storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;

reading the program from the recording medium in the digital camera at a desired time;

and

executing the program.

2. (Previously Presented) A function appending method for a digital camera which records image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium;

receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium;

transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium;

receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line,

storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera;

reading the program from the recording medium in the digital camera at a desired time;

and

executing the program.

3. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising deleting a desired program from recording medium in the digital camera.

4. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising deleting a desired program from recording medium in the digital camera

5. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the program is a print image data generating program.

6. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the program is a print image data generating program.

7. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the program is a communication program.

8. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the program is a communication program.

9. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the image data is recorded on the recording medium in the digital camera.

10. (Original) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the image data is recorded on the recording medium in the digital camera.

11. (Previously Presented) A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

external program reception means with a program installing function, for waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium, transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium, receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium, which is connected thereto exchangeably, and storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera; and

execution control means for reading the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program,

wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium.

12. (Previously Presented) A digital camera for recording image data by converting an image pickup light photoelectrically, comprising:

external program reception means with a program installing function, for waiting for a program transmitting command from an external recording medium, receiving the program transmitting command from the external recording medium, transmitting a request-to-send program command to the external recording medium, receiving a program recorded on the external recording medium and sent therefrom via a communication line, and storing the program into a recording medium provided in the digital camera; and

execution control means for reading the program from the recording medium at a desired time to execute the read out program,

wherein the program transmitting command is the first communication between the digital camera and the external recording medium.

13. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, further comprising program deleting means for deleting a desired program from the recording medium provided therein.

14. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, further comprising program deleting means for deleting a desired program from the recording medium provided therein.

15. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the program is a program for generating print image data, and further comprising:

print data transmitting means for transmitting the print image data generated by executing the program to a printing device.

16. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the program is a program for generating print image data, and further comprising:

print data transmitting means for transmitting the print image data generated by executing the program to a printing device.

17. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line.

18. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the program is a communication program for communicating data with a terminal device connected to the communication line.

19. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the image data is recorded onto the recording medium provided therein.

20. (Original) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the image data is recorded onto the recording medium provided therein.

21. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

22. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

23. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

24. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the recording medium is a flash memory.

25. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the communication line is external to the digital camera.

26. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the communication line is connected to an external device.

27. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 26, wherein the external device comprises a personal computer.

28. (Previously Presented) The function appending method as set forth in claim 26, wherein the external device comprises a modem.

29. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the communication line is external to the digital camera.

30. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 12, wherein the communication line is connected to an external device.

31. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 30, wherein the external device comprises a personal computer.

32. (Previously Presented) The digital camera as set forth in claim 30, wherein the external device comprises a modem.

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EVIDENCE APPENDIX

This Appendix is Not Applicable to the instant Appeal.

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RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

This Appendix is Not Applicable to the instant Appeal.